What is claimed is:

1. In an image forming apparatus for sequentially transferring toner images from a plurality of image carriers to a sheet being conveyed by an image transfer belt one above the other with bias applying members to thereby form a composite color image, backup rollers, contacting an inside surface of said image transfer belt, each have a volumetric resistivity of 10^9 Ω·cm or above and a surface roughness Rz of 6 μm or above.

2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said backup rollers, constituting auxiliary rollers for forming nips for image transfer, each are positioned close to the nip of a particular image transfer position at an upstream side of said nip in a direction of movement of said image transfer belt.

3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said bias applying members each comprise an elastic member configured to exert a suitable degree of pressure based on elasticity on an associated one of said plurality of image carriers via said image transfer belt.

4. The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said bias applying members each comprise a brush.

5. The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said bias applying members each comprise a Mylar sheet.

6. The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said

bias applying members each comprise a blade.

7. The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said plurality of image carriers each have an outside diameter of 40 mm or below.

8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said image transfer belt has a volume resistivity of 10^{10} Ω·cm or above.

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said apparatus is capable of forming images on both surfaces of a sheet.

10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said backup rollers each comprise a metallic core and a resin layer formed on said metallic core.

11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein surfaces of said backup rollers are roughened by component rolling using a die.

12. In an image forming apparatus for sequentially transferring toner images from a plurality of image carriers to a sheet being conveyed by an image transfer belt one above the other with bias applying members to thereby form a composite color image, backup rollers, contacting an inside surface of said image transfer belt, each have a volumetric resistivity of 10^{9} Ω·cm or above and a surface roughness Ra of 1.5 μm or above.

13. The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein

said backup rollers, constituting auxiliary rollers for forming nips for image transfer, each are positioned close to the nip of a particular image transfer position at an upstream side of said nip in a direction of movement of said image transfer belt.

14. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said bias applying members each comprise an elastic member configured to exert a suitable degree of pressure based on elasticity on an associated one of said plurality of image carriers via said image transfer belt.

15. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said bias applying members each comprise a brush.

16. The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said bias applying members each comprise a Mylar sheet.

17. The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said bias applying members each comprise a blade.

18. The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein said plurality of image carriers each have an outside diameter of 40 mm or below.

19. The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said image transfer belt has a volume resistivity of 10^{10} Ω·cm or above.

20. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said apparatus is capable of forming images on both surfaces of a sheet.

21. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein said backup rollers each comprise a metallic core and a resin layer formed on said metallic core.

22. The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein surfaces of said backup rollers are roughened by component rolling using a die.

23. In an image forming apparatus for sequentially transferring a plurality of toner images of different colors from an image carrier to an intermediate image transfer belt one above the other with a bias applying member to thereby form a composite color image and then transferring said composite color image to a recording medium, a high-resistance backup roller, contacting an inside surface of said intermediate image transfer belt, has a volumetric resistivity of 10^{10} Ω·cm or above and a ten-point mean surface roughness Rz of 6 μm or above or an arithmetic mean surface roughness Ra of 1.5 μm or above.

24. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said image carrier comprises a plurality of image carriers each being assigned to a particular color, and said high-resistance backup roller, constituting an auxiliary roller for forming a nip for image transfer, comprises a plurality of high-resistance backup rollers each being positioned close to said nip at an upstream side of said nip in a direction of movement of said intermediate image

transfer belt.

25. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said bias applying member contacts the inside surface of said intermediate image transfer belt and presses said intermediate image transfer belt against said image carrier with preselected pressure based on elasticity of said bias applying means.

26. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said bias applying member comprises a roller.

27. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said bias applying member comprises a brush.

28. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said bias applying member comprises a Mylar sheet.

29. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said bias applying member comprises a blade.

30. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said image carrier has an outside diameter of 40 mm or below.

31. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said intermediate image transfer belt has a surface resistivity of 10^{12} $\Omega \cdot cm^2$ or above.

32. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said high-resistance backup roller comprises a metallic core and a resin layer formed on said metallic core.

33. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein

a surface layer of said high-resistance backup roller is provided with an initial ten-point mean roughness Rz of 12 μm or above by sandblasting.

34. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein a surface of said high-resistance backup roller is roughened to have a preselected roughness by sandblasting.

35. The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein a surface of said high-resistance backup roller is provided with an initial ten-point mean roughness Rz of 7 μm or above.

36. In an intermediate image transfer belt for carrying a composite color image, which is formed by transferring a plurality of toner images of different colors from an image carrier one above the other, and transferring said composite color image to a recording medium, a high-resistance backup roller, contacting an inside surface of said intermediate image transfer belt, has a volumetric resistivity of 10^{10} Ω·cm or above and a ten-point mean surface roughness Rz of 6 μm or above or an arithmetic mean surface roughness Ra of 1.5 μm or above.

37. The apparatus as claimed in claim 36, wherein said intermediate image transfer belt has a surface resistivity of 10^{12} Ω·cm^2 or above.